

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/019,587

Examiner

Prabodh M. Dharia

Applicant(s)

KANBARA ET AL.

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09-21-2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 24-30 and renumbered as 1-7.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 09-21-06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Art Unit: 2629

1. **Status:** Please all the replies and correspondence should be addressed to Examiner's new art unit 2629. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted on 09-21-2006 under amendments, which have been placed of record in the file. Claims 24-30 are pending in this action. Claims 1-23 are cancelled.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 09-21-2006 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Response to Amendment

3. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-23. Claims 24,25 were objected. Applicant has amended claim 24 with adding limitations of the base claim 23. Applicant's arguments, see Remark, filed 09-21-06, with respect to Claims 24-30 regarding "a touch input device, comprising: (a) a substrate having a first planar surface and a second planar surface; (b) an acoustic wave transducer for generating acoustic waves, the acoustic wave transducer coupled to the second planar surface such that generated acoustic waves are transmitted to the first planar surface; (c) planar wiring printed on the second planar surface; and (d) means for connecting the planar wiring to the acoustic wave transducer; the means for connecting the planar wiring to the acoustic wave transducer comprises a first electrode that couples a first portion of a first side of the transducer to a first portion of the planar wiring and a second electrode that couples a second portion of the first side of the transducer to a second portion of the planar wiring wherein the second electrode extends from the first side of the transducer to a second side of the transducer

Art Unit: 2629

opposed to the first portion of the first side of the transducer and the first portion of the planar wiring is insulated from the second portion of the planar wiring” have been fully considered, searched and are persuasive as they do overcome prior art rejection; which puts application number 10019587 in condition for allowance.

4. The amendments filed on 09-21-2006 does not introduce any new matter. The added material is supported by the original disclosure.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 24-30 are allowed.

6. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant’s argument filed on 09-21-2006 are convincing. As argued by applicant in remarks under claim rejection page 4, paragraphs 1-3, Kambara et al. (6,091,406) in view of Citron (4,926,010) and Grunwald et al. (5,009,708) fails to recite or disclose the uniquely distinct features represented by underlined bold claim below;

a touch input device, comprising: (a) a substrate having a first planar surface and a second planar surface; (b) an acoustic wave transducer for generating acoustic waves, the acoustic wave transducer coupled to the second planar surface such that generated acoustic waves are transmitted to the first planar surface; (c) planar wiring printed on the second planar surface; and (d) means for connecting the planar wiring to the acoustic wave transducer; **the means for connecting the planar wiring to the acoustic wave transducer comprises a first**

electrode that couples a first portion of a first side of the transducer to a first portion of the planar wiring and a second electrode that couples a second portion of the first side of the transducer to a second portion of the planar wiring wherein the second electrode extends from the first side of the transducer to a second side of the transducer opposed to the first portion of the first side of the transducer and the first portion of the planar wiring is insulated from the second portion of the planar wiring.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prabodh M Dharia whose telephone number is 571-272-7668. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM to 5PM.
8. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2629

9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:


Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

PD

AU2629

October 17, 2006


BIPIN SHALWALA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600